

## 1100.2 - Statistics Victoria, Dec 2008

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 23/01/2009

## Summary

### Contents

#### What's happening in Victoria

Includes: CData Online 2006, Inaugural NatStats Conference, Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum meeting 9 Dec 2008, State Statistical Forum Workshop, Childhood Education and Care Survey, Survey of Education and Training 2009, Review of ABS Industry Statistics Program, Reinstatement of full monthly Retail Trade sample, Proposed data items for 2010 household Survey of Water Use and Conservation, Victorian household preparedness for emergencies, Interstate commuters, ABS Service Delivery Charter 2008-2011.

#### Recent releases

Includes: **Selected releases** of ABS publications; **Information papers, research papers, and classifications**; and **Other releases** for the period October to December 2008.

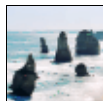
#### ABS Statistical training and information seminars

Includes: **A listing of ABS statistical training courses and information seminars** available in Victoria.

#### Points of contact

Includes: **Contact points for ABS in Victoria, subscription information, and Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum departmental representatives.**

## What's happening in Victoria



#### What's happening in Victoria

CData Online 2006

Inaugural NatStats Conference

Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum meeting 9 Dec 2008

State Statistical Forum Workshop

Childhood Education and Care Survey

Survey of Education and Training 2009

Review of ABS Industry Statistics Program

Reinstatement of full monthly Retail Trade sample

Proposed data items for 2010 household Survey of Water Use and Conservation

Victorian household preparedness for emergencies

Interstate commuters



**CDATA Online, 2006.** (cat no 2064.0, released 27/10/2008. First Issue) is an online ABS website tool which combines information on Australian society from the 2006 Census, with web graphing and mapping capability. CDATA Online allows you to create your own tables of Census data on a range of different topics such as: age, education, housing, income, transport, religion, ethnicity, occupation and more. This free online product allows you to create tables, maps and graphs of Census characteristics for all ABS geographic areas.

The product is designed to provide clients with a high degree of freedom in selecting and combining the geographical areas most suited to their needs. You can access data for areas as small as a Collection District (approximately 225 households) or as large as an entire state or all of Australia, or create your own customised geographic areas. Once a table has been created it can be further customised by adding and removing data items and geographic areas, and by creating custom data groups. Graphs and maps created in CDATA Online can be downloaded in a variety of formats.

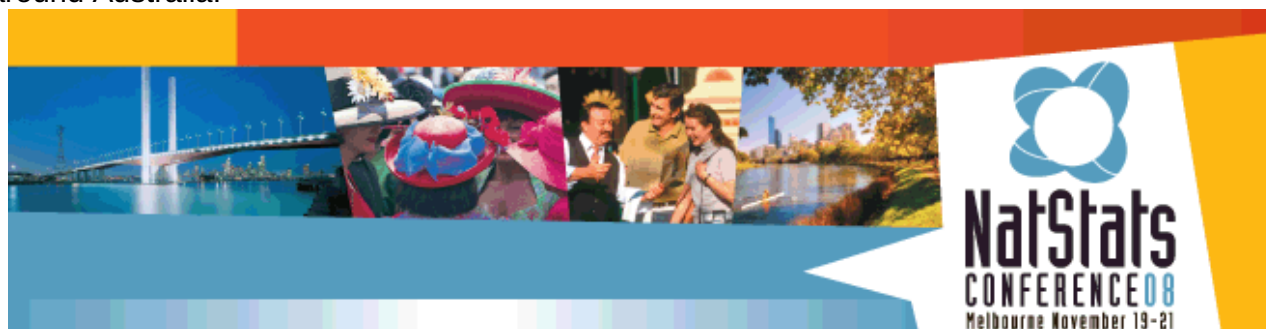
Statistics Victoria's Editor offers these tips. Print out the CDATA User Manual (bottom left of front webpage CDATA Online) to have to hand when creating tables. Build a table one data item at a time, and populate the table each time. If you register as a user, you can save work for return at a later date. CDATA Online allows one to compare geographic areas easily, and has richer datasets than ABS's Community Profiles.

State Government clients can organise a free CDATA 2006 Information Session in their agency by contacting Heather Burns (ph 03 9615 7535) by email <vic.client.services@abs.gov.au>. These sessions can be delivered from April 2009 onwards.

[Back to top](#)

## Inaugural NatStats Conference

The NatStatso8 conference was designed to connect users and producers of official statistics and provide an opportunity for participants to discuss strategies for improving statistics for policy and decision makers. The conference, held in Melbourne 19-21 November 2008, had 460 registered attendees from government, business, community and research sectors; with 80 coming from a range of Victorian agencies. Enrico Giovannini (OECD Chief Statistician) attended along with delegations from South Korea, New Zealand, Newfoundland, and right around Australia.



The conference's focus was measuring progress in Australian society and future information needs. The conference was divided into three main themes: informing the nation, measuring the

progress of society, and informing the environment debate. There was also a showcase session that demonstrated information platforms and State planning initiatives. The conference is linked with a global initiative being led by the OECD on measuring progress in societies, and with Australian initiatives being developed through the 2020 Summit and National Reform Agenda.

One of the major conference outcomes was tabling a Statistical Declaration to guide development of a national statistics strategy for Australia in the 21st century, available on [www.nss.gov.au](http://www.nss.gov.au).

[Back to top](#)

### **Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum meeting 9 Dec 2008**

The Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum (VSAF) met on 9 December 2008, marking the end of an era with Mr Vin Martin's retirement as Chair. Mr Martin has held this position since June 2004. Mr Martin was thanked for his significant and lasting contribution to the Victorian statistical community. Three new VSAF members were welcomed, and departing members Ms Jane Brockington (DPC), Mr John Lang (DoJ) and Ms Peggy Hausknecht (DPCD) thanked for their contribution.



Mr Carl Obst (Regional Director, ABS Victoria) provided an overview of recent ABS activity. He noted the successful NatStats Conference held in Melbourne on 19-21 November, drawing attention to the conference's major output, the Statistical Declaration, which will act to guide development of a national statistics strategy for Australia in the 21st century. Mr Obst then discussed ABS's submission to the Victorian Parliament's Inquiry Into Improving Access to Victorian Public Sector Information and Data, with key items being pricing and cost recovery strategies for ABS data, governance of the National Statistical Service, ABS involvement in Creative Commons, and ABS involvement in supporting development of privacy frameworks and metadata. Finally, he reported back on the 2011 Census State and Territory Engagement Forum held on 4 September 2008, highlighting that early engagement with State and Local Governments was identified and supported as a key strategy for delivering a successful 2011 Census.

Mr Martin, Australian Statistics Advisory Council (ASAC) representative, provided a report on the 28-29 November 2008 ASAC meeting. Issues discussed included the ABS budget situation, 2011 Census funding, data linking, statistics and innovation, potential impact of the global financial crisis on expectations of ABS output, and consideration of potential future demands that ABS may face in regards to climate change, in particular carbon trading and price index for household consumption. Mr Martin also provided an update on the State Statistical Forum (SSF) of 26 November 2008.

Mr Phillip Norman (Vic Department of Transport) presented a report on Australian Transport Statistics Network (ATSN). The ATSN is composed of stakeholders from ABS; Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics; and Transport and Roads agencies from

each state: with an aim to lift the quality of transport statistics by employing a more collaborative approach. Three main areas have been highlighted initially as areas for progress: validation of Survey of Motor Vehicle Usage (SMVU) estimates; developing a common methodology for different jurisdictions so that freight surveys can be compared; and a collaborative ABS and Department of Transport approach to confront interim modelling of SMVU.

The VSAF discussion theme was Improving Indigenous Statistics for Victoria, with a number of speakers from different Victorian State Government Departments presenting and leading discussion. Ms Helen Trihas and Ms Camille Kingston (Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages; DoJ) spoke of their agency's initiatives to improve Indigenous identification. Mr Paul Robertson (Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs, DPCD) discussed whole of Government approaches to improving Indigenous statistics and Ms Mary Sullivan (Koori Human Services Unit, Dept Human Services) outlined initiatives to improve Indigenous identification in health statistics.

For further information on VSAF contact Pam Boulton on (03) 9615 7880 or email <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

[Back to top](#)

## **State Statistical Forum Workshop**

The State Statistical Forum (SSF) meets twice annually, usually in March and November, and comprises State and Territory Government representatives only. ABS organises the agenda for the March meeting while State Government provides the agenda for the November. The SSF meeting held on 26 November 2008 was hosted by NSW with Victoria agreeing to undertake this role in 2009.

The November 2008 meeting covered four projects being undertaken to address common State/Territory statistical priorities:

- Local level demographic statistics,
- Improved Statistical Information about Indigenous Population and Communities,
- Improved statistics about children and youth, and
- Local level economic development.

The workshop also included a presentation by Dr Lee Taylor (NSW Health) on administrative data and potential for data linking to add richness to administrative datasets, discussion on advancing Census 2011 in the States, and two topics put forward by Queensland Government. The first of these was the need for State and Territory input-output tables which are required for modelling purposes, with the meeting resolving that Queensland undertake a coordination role with regard to construction of regional tables. The second topic was development of the Government Information Licensing Framework in Queensland and its impact on state, national and international public sector information reuse policy.

For more information about the SSF contact James Darragh on (03) 9615-7049, or email <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au> .

[Back to top](#)

## **Childhood Education and Care Survey**

To specifically meet data needs for early years learning, a new Childhood Education and Care Survey was conducted as a supplement to the Labour Force Survey in June 2008. It examined participation in early childhood education in both preschool and child care settings. The survey will also allow assessment of demand for preschool programs and provide information on communication of learning outcomes to parents. This survey will provide a timely picture of early childhood education, to inform debate in this area. It is planned to continue the survey

every three years, as an integrated child care and education survey. Results from the 2008 survey are due for release in April 2009.

[Back to top](#)

## **Survey of Education and Training 2009**

The four yearly Survey of Education and Training will next be conducted from March to June 2009, with results available in early 2010. It has been redeveloped to take into account a number of recent information demands. In particular, a new module is being added about individuals' education and work history, to provide a more useful analysis of direct links between educational participation and attainment and outcomes in terms of labour force participation and occupation. Collection of information about formal, non-formal and informal learning activities will enable international comparisons with other mainly European countries that have also implemented the OECD Continuing Education and Training module.

[Back to top](#)

## **Review of ABS Industry Statistics Program**

ABS is conducting a review of its industry statistics program and seeking input from users of these statistics to help shape the future work program. One aim of the review is to ensure that information on industry performance is provided for all industries in the economy, while remaining responsive to users' needs for more detailed information for specific industries. ABS is seeking advice and views from users on priorities in terms of industries and/or data items, particularly as they relate to development, implementation and monitoring of specific government policy. The feedback and recommendations received will help ABS to determine data needs and frequency of industry statistic collections. This information will assist design of the industry statistics program from 2010-11 onwards.

For more information about this review, contact Sophie Vassiliou on (03) 9615 7442 or email <[victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au](mailto:victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au)> before 30 January 2009.

[Back to top](#)

## **Reinstatement of full monthly Retail Trade sample**

The Australian Statistician, Brian Pink announced on 5 November, 2008 that ABS will reinstate the full monthly sample for the Retail Business Survey. The Statistician recognised that global developments over recent months had heightened public interest in government action to support the economy and consequently, there was closer scrutiny of economic data. In addition, key macroeconomic statistics users had indicated that more robust monthly retail trade data are their top priority for improved economic statistics.

Whilst month-on-month changes in retail sales are difficult to measure reliably, even with the best of survey designs and robust samples, reinstating the full monthly sample will reduce some of that uncertainty. At this stage it is expected that results from the reinstated sample will be available in early-2009.

Further information about reinstatement of the full monthly Retail trade sample will be included in coming issues of Retail Trade Trends, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0) and Retail Trade Quarterly Indicators, Australia (cat. no 8502.0).

[Back to top](#)

## **Proposed data items for 2010 household Survey of Water Use and Conservation**

ABS runs an Environmental household survey to collect a range of statistics used to monitor the economic and social well being of Australian households, their patterns of consumption, and consumer behaviours which affect the environment. The survey focuses on three major themes that are rotated over three years: energy use and conservation, waste management and

transport use, and water use and conservation. The theme for March 2010 is Water Use and Conservation and survey results will be published in late-2010 as 'Environmental Issues: Water Use and Conservation'.

A year prior to running each survey, ABS's Centre of Environment and Energy Statistics reviews and updates data items included in the last cycle to ensure relevance. The review process is usually conducted with data users, and ABS seeks comments or suggestions on proposed data items. Proposals for new questions and reasons for their inclusion are also appreciated and welcomed. Please be aware when framing your suggestions, that changes in existing questions can often result in a loss of time series.

For a data item list or to discuss any aspect of the survey, please contact Fiona Clarke on (02) 6252 5180 or Bonn Maguire on (02) 6252 5716, or email <environment@abs.gov.au>. Respond by 20 February 2009 for consideration in the current review process.

[Back to top](#)

## **Victorian household preparedness for emergencies**

Emergency services organizations aim to reduce the number of emergency events through prevention activities, and reduce the impact of emergency events through community and operational preparedness. To examine steps households had taken for emergencies, ABS conducted a survey of households during October 2007 in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Australian Capital Territory. The survey also investigated recent household experiences of emergencies. Some survey highlights follow:

- Smoke alarms were installed in 97% of Victorian households in 2007, an increase from 84% in 1998.
- Almost 2 million households had smoke alarms in October 2007, and 85% had manually tested their alarms in the previous 12 months.
- More than 50,000 households still remain without smoke alarms.
- Households in the outer east of Melbourne were much more prepared for emergencies than those in inner Melbourne, but the emergency preparedness of Melbourne households generally was similar to regional Victoria.
- Almost 50,000 households in Victoria had someone unable to understand emergency instructions in English, and these households generally had lower levels of emergency preparedness.
- One in four households in regional Victoria felt at risk of bushfires; in Melbourne the highest perceived bushfire risks were felt by households in the outer east and Mornington Peninsula.
- Over 150,000 households experienced an emergency in the last two years; nearly half of these caused by storms, wind or hail.
- Overall, most people didn't contact emergency services unless their home was threatened by a bushfire.
- There were 67,000 households with an emergency services volunteer, and these households generally had higher levels of emergency preparedness.

More information can be found in State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, Sept 2008 (cat. no. 1367.2).

[Back to top](#)

## **Interstate commuters**

'Australian Labour Market Statistics, Oct 2008' (cat no 6105.0, released 03/10/2008) contained an article on Interstate Commuters, i.e. people who live in one state but work in another. The article used 2006 Census of Population and Housing data and relates to the main job of an individual in the week prior to Census. There is a brief analysis of where people are commuting

from, destinations they are commuting to, and industries and occupations in which they are employed.

The mining industry accounted for 19% of commuters travelling to Western Australia to work and 13% of those travelling to South Australia. In the Northern Territory, 20% of persons who commuted there for work were employed in construction; while nationally, 9% of interstate commuters were employed in construction.

In 2006, 4% of all employed people living in the Australian Capital Territory commuted interstate for work in the week prior to the Census, followed by those living in New South Wales (2%) and Northern Territory (2%). In terms of numbers, New South Wales had the largest number commute outside the state to work (48,300, mostly to ACT), followed by Victoria (20,200) and Queensland (15,500).

The Australian Capital Territory received proportionally more interstate commuters than any other state or territory: 12% of people working in ACT were usual residents of another state or territory. These people commuted into Canberra from nearby Queanbeyan, Yass and adjacent semi-rural areas of New South Wales. New South Wales received the largest number of interstate commuters (30,000), followed by the Australian Capital Territory (22,500), Victoria (17,900) and Queensland (16,900).

[Back to top](#)

## **ABS Service Delivery Charter 2008-2011**

ABS is committed to increasing access to Australia's wealth of statistical information. We do this by delivering timely, relevant and accurate statistical information, the use of which contributes to informed decision-making, research and discussion within governments, businesses, and Australian and international communities.

Our website presents ABS data free of charge, and is supported by a telephone enquiry service to assist customers accessing our data. More complex data requirements are met through customised data consultancy and microdata access services that provide expert assistance on a cost-recovery basis. We also contribute to the National Statistical System through our involvement in the National Data Network, which provides a distributed library of data holdings relevant to policy analysis and research; and the standardised business reporting program designed to reduce the load on providers of information to government.

This Charter (cat no 1007.0) outlines our commitment to providing a quality customer service, specifying what you can expect when you approach us for statistical or other information through any of our service channels. ABS seeks to continually improve our customer service. We recognise and greatly appreciate the support of individuals and organisations who contribute to the ongoing wealth of statistical information about our nation by participating in ABS surveys. It is only with your assistance that ABS can continue to produce statistics that contribute to quality informed decision making.

[Back to top](#)

## **ABS discontinues the Web address coder service**

ABS has decided to discontinue the Web address coder service provided to clients by ABS, from 31 December, 2008. The cost of supporting the service was not justified given the small number of users utilising the service. ABS does not own the underlying intellectual property in the G-NAF address file or geocoding software, and incurs costs for their use.

ABS is continuing to make a Locality to SLA concordance file available at no charge on request. For geocoding addresses to smaller geographic areas such as CD or Mesh Block, address coding software (engine) is required.



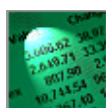
There are a number of commercial and government alternatives available to users:

- A list of commercial organisations that provide geomatic services using G-NAF can be found here <http://www.psma.com.au/products/gnaf.cfm#tabContent-howtobuy>
- Some state governments are also offering address coding and validation services, usually through land agencies.

ABS can provide further advice should clients require it. Please contact [<geography@abs.gov.au>](mailto:geography@abs.gov.au) by email.

[Back to top](#)

## Recent releases



### Recent releases

#### Selected releases

#### Information papers, research papers, and classifications

#### Other releases

### Selected releases

**1329.0 Australian Wine and Grape Industry, 2008.** Released 28/11/2008.

In 2008, Victoria had 35 thousand hectares of irrigated grapevines. The three main grape growing states (SA, NSW & Vic) have about 90% of vineyards using irrigation. The average usage of water was 3.2 megalitres per hectare, with Victoria averaging 4.1 megalitres per hectare.

Victoria had 22.7% of all Australian winemaking locations and 16.3% of all grapes crushed. In 2008, 476,842 tonnes of grapes were produced in Victoria, an increase of 13.7% on 2007; but below 2004-06 production levels. From 2007 to 2008, 547 hectares of vines (not yet bearing) were planted in Victoria. NW Victoria accounted for 62.4% of the area of vines bearing grapes in Victoria. See also 'Vineyards Estimates, Australia, 2007-08' (cat no 1329.0.55.002, released 30/10/2008).

**3101.0 Australian Demographic Statistics, June 2008.** Released 02/12/2008

At 30 June 2008, Victoria's preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) was 5,297,600, an increase of 92,700 persons (1.8%) on a year earlier. Australia's population grew by 1.7% during the 12 months. Natural increase and net overseas migration contributed 41% and 59% respectively to this total population growth. Western Australia recorded the largest proportional gain (2.7%) and Tasmania the smallest (1.0%).

**3301.0 Births, Australia, 2007.** Released 28/10/2008.

Australia's total fertility rate (TFR) in 2007 was 1.93 babies per woman, the highest since 1981 (1.94). The increase in TFR between 2006 and 2007 was largely due to births to women aged 25 to 34 years. Women aged 30-34 years experienced the highest fertility of all age groups in 2007, with 126.6 babies per 1,000 women. This was the highest rate recorded for women aged 30-34 years since 1962. Women aged 25-29 years continued to record the second highest fertility of all age groups, with 106.5 babies per 1,000 women in 2007. Fertility of women aged 35-39 years increased to 68.1 babies per 1,000 women, their highest rate since 1950.

In 2007, there were 285,200 births registered in Australia, 19,300 (7.2%) more than in 2006, and the highest number of annual births ever registered in Australia. The median age of all



mothers of births registered in 2007 was 30.7 years, while the median age of all fathers was 33.1 years. In 2007, 67% of births were to parents in a registered marriage, compared with 82% in 1987. There were 14,200 births (5% of all births) registered in Australia where at least one parent identified themselves as being of Indigenous origin.

There were 70,313 births to women usually resident in Victoria during 2007. Victoria's TFR of 1.87 babies per woman was the highest since 1978.

### **3302.0 Deaths, Australia, 2007.** Released 25/11/2008.

Life expectancy in Australia continues to increase, with a boy born today expected to live 79.0 years and a girl 83.7 years. Since 1987, life expectancy at birth has increased by around six years for men and four years for women.

The standardised death rate in 2007 was the same as in 2005 and 2006, which are the lowest on record at 6.0 deaths per 1,000 people. In 1987, the rate was 9.1 deaths per 1,000 people. There were 137,900 deaths (70,600 men and 67,300 women) in Australia during 2007.

There were 1,200 infant deaths in 2007, a decrease of 60 infant deaths (or 4.7%) on 2006. The 2007 infant mortality rate was 4.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, 11% lower than 2006 (4.7). Infant mortality rates for Indigenous Australians were around twice the rate for all Australians. Victorian data cubes exist as cat. no. 3302.2.55.001.

### **3306.0.55.001 Marriages, Australia, 2007.** Released 30/09/2008

In 2007, there were 116,322 registered marriages in Australia, representing an increase of 2,100 (1.8%) on 2006. This is the highest number of marriages registered in a single year since 1990. The 2007 crude marriage rate was 5.5 marriages per 1,000 estimated resident population, compared with 7.1 marriages per 1,000 in 1988.

The median age of people married in 2007 was 31.6 years for males and 29.3 years for females. The median age of people getting married for the first time (29.6 years for males, 27.6 years for females) was slightly lower than for total population median age. Since 1988, the median age at marriage has increased by 3.8 years for males and 3.9 years for females. The highest age-specific marriage rates were in the 25-29 year age group, with 46.4 per 1,000 males in this age group and 52.0 per 1,000 females married in 2007. Some 77.7% of people married had not been married previously. There were 26,967 marriages registered in Victoria.

### **4156.0 Sports and Physical Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2008 (Edition 2).** Released 03/10/2008

This publication provides a statistical overview on sports and physical recreation in Australia. The sports and physical recreation sector includes organisations providing sports services, manufacturers and distributors of sports equipment, professional sports people, and others involved in paid employment or voluntary work within the sector.

In Australia, there were 10.5 million persons aged 15 years and over (65.9% of the adult population) who participated in physical activities for recreation, exercise or sport at some time during the 12 months prior to interview in 2005–06. Of these persons, 4.4 million (42.1%) participated in organised sports and physical recreation. The most popular organised sport for boys (5–14 years) was soccer (outdoor) with 268,500 participants (19.6%), whereas for girls it was swimming with 236,800 participants (18.2%).

Australian Rules football and horse racing were the sports most attended by both males and females. Australian Rules was attended by 19.2% of males and 12.5% of females over 12 months, while horse racing was attended by 13.8% of males and 11.2% of females.

Engineering construction work worth \$1,790.3m was done for recreation projects (including landscaping) during 2006–07. Sport and camping equipment retailers recorded retail sales of \$2,270.3m in 2005–06, while Marine equipment retailers had sales of \$1,103.2m.

#### **4172.0 Arts and Culture in Australia: A Statistical Overview, 2008 (Second Edition).**

Released 22/10/2008

Contains information on a range of topics including employment in culture, time spent on cultural activities, attendance at cultural venues and events, expenditure on culture, and import and export of cultural goods and services. Also provides profiles of cultural sectors, grouped according to the Australian Culture and Leisure Industry Classification.

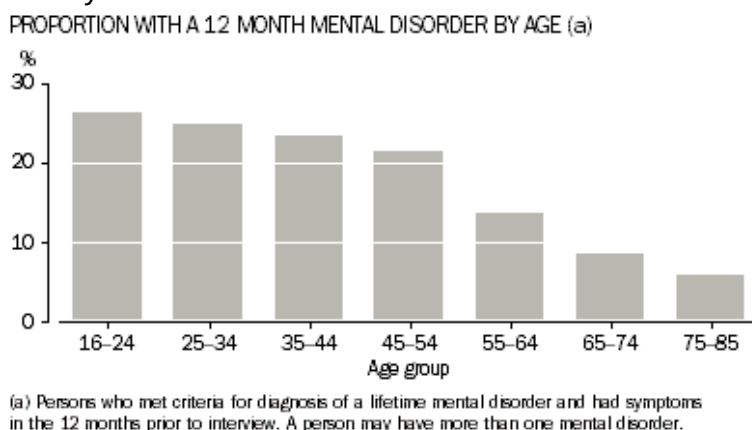
#### **4326.0 National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing: Summary of Results, 2007.**

Released 23/10/2008

The 2007 National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing collected information from approximately 8,800 Australians aged 16–85 years. The prevalence of selected lifetime and 12-month mental disorders (eg. experienced symptoms of a mental disorder in 12 months prior to survey interview) are discussed by three major disorder groups: Anxiety disorders (eg. social phobia), Affective disorders (eg. depression) and Substance use disorders (eg. harmful alcohol use). It also provides information on health services used for mental health problems, physical conditions, social networks and caregiving, demographic and socio-economic characteristics.

There were 3.2 million people who had a 12-month mental disorder, or 20% of Australians aged 16–85 years. This comprised 14% (2.3 million) of Australians aged 16–85 years with a 12-month Anxiety disorder, 6% (995,900) with a 12-month Affective disorder, and 5% (819,800) with a 12-month Substance use disorder. Women experienced higher rates of 12-month mental disorders than men (22% to 18%). Most data is only available at national level.

Of the 2.5 million Australians aged 16–24 years, more than a quarter (26%) had a 12 month mental disorder. The proportion was similar for people aged 25–34 years (25%), compared to 6% for those aged 75–85 years.



#### **4440.0.55.001 Volunteers in Sport, Australia, 2006. Released 30/10/2008. First Issue**

Summary data on sports volunteers from the 2006 General Social Survey. 'Volunteers in Sport' consists of two data cubes; the first presents data for Australia, and the second data for states and territories. About one-third of the Australian population aged 18 years and over participated in voluntary work (5.2 million or 34.1%). A third of these, or just over 1.7 million people (11.2%) volunteered for sports and physical recreation organisations. Data on all volunteers from the 2006 General Social Survey (GSS) was published in 'Voluntary Work, Australia, 2006' (cat. no. 4441.0).

#### **4448.0 A Profile of Carers in Australia, 2008. Released 14/10/2008. First Issue**

Provides an overview of the characteristics and activities of people who provide informal assistance to someone with a disability, long-term health condition or older people (aged 60 years and over). Information was drawn from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing and three ABS surveys: 2003 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers; 2006 General Social Survey and 2006 Time Use Survey.

Concern for carers' well-being, and an appreciation of the value of work they do, has made carers a key social policy concern. Carers enable older people to 'age in place', and people with a disability or long-term illness to remain in the community. In 2003, there were 2.5 million carers aged 15 years and over (16% of total persons 15 years and over). Of the 2.5 million carers, around 475,000 (or 19% of all carers) were primary carers. In 2006, the carer rate among the population aged 15 years and over was highest in Inner Regional areas (12%) and lowest in Remote areas (9%). The median age of the carer population (aged 15 years and over) was 48 years, while for non-carers it was 40 years. Another related ABS release is 'People with a Need for Assistance - A Snapshot 2006' (cat no 4445.0. Released 05/08/2008).

#### **4512.0 Corrective Services, Australia, Sep 2008.** Released 27/11/2008

The Australian Capital Territory (including ACT prisoners held in NSW prisons) and Victoria had the lowest imprisonment rates: 64 and 106 prisoners per 100,000 adult population, respectively. In September quarter 2008, the average daily number of full-time prisoners in Australia was 25,267 males (93%) and 1,913 females (7%). The Australian average daily imprisonment rate for males was 314 prisoners per 100,000 adult male population, while for females it was 23 prisoners per 100,000. The lowest proportions of unsentenced prisoners (confined to custody while awaiting outcome of trial) were recorded in Victoria (19%) and Western Australia (21%).

#### **4602.0.55.001 Environmental Issues: Energy Use and Conservation, Mar 2008.** Released 28/11/2008. First Issue

Presents information on environmental behaviour and practices in Australian households at March 2008, for people aged 18 years and over. There has been an increase in the use of insulation in homes, up from 52% of Australian dwellings in 1994 to 61% in 2008. Electricity was the main source for ovens (75%) and cooktops (56%), and also the most commonly used energy source for hot water systems (46%) and space heating (35%).

Solar energy use has increased from 5% in 2002 to 8% in 2008. It was used primarily for heating water. In the Northern Territory and Western Australia, 54% and 21% of households, respectively, had solar hot water. There was a substantial increase in households with air conditioners and evaporative coolers, from 32% of dwellings in 1994 to 67% in 2008. Reverse cycle/heat pump has been the most popular system of cooling since 1994.

#### **5220.0 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, 2007-08.** Released 14/11/2008

This publication contains state and territory estimates of gross domestic product (referred to as gross state product (GSP) and its components (in current price and volume terms) for 1998-99 to 2007-08. During 2007-08, volume GSP increased in all states: Queensland (5.3%), Western Australia (5.2%), Northern Territory (3.9%) and South Australia (3.8%). Growth in New South Wales (2.8%), Victoria (3.2%), Tasmania (3.4%) and Australian Capital Territory (2.5%) was below Australian GDP growth of 3.7%.

Volume growth in gross value added was positive in all states in 2007-08. The strongest growth was in Western Australia (up 6.2%), followed by Queensland (up 4.4%), Victoria (up 3.9%) and the Northern Territory (up 3.8%). Growth in Western Australia was partially driven by Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (up 18.8%) and Manufacturing (up 16.4%); and in Victoria Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (up 13.5%) showed growth.

## **6227.0 Education and Work, Australia, May 2008.** Released 26/11/2008

In Victoria, there were 688,300 people aged 15-64 years enrolled in a course of study. Some 265,800 (38.6%) of these enrolled people were attending a higher education institution, 189,800 (27.6%) were at school, 148,500 (21.6%) were at Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutions, and 84,200 (12.2%) were at other educational institutions. In May 2008, 51.3% of the people enrolled in a course of study were female, 42.6% were aged 15-19 years, and 67% were studying full-time.

Among the 1.9 million people in Victoria with a non-school qualification (see note below), 30.8% reported attaining a Bachelor Degree, 27.2% reported having a Certificate III/IV, and 16.4% had a Advanced Diploma/Diploma.

Some 29.2% of Victorian people aged 15-64 years reported their level of highest educational attainment as Year 11 or below, and 20.5% reported Year 12.

There were 105,500 Victorians who had not studied for any qualification during 2007 but had since started such a course. Of these, 54.9% were females and 86.6% were employed, 61.7% of whom were employed full-time. Some 24.1% people aged 20-24 years were studying for a qualification, compared with 25.1% of persons aged 25-34 years.

Note: Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than pre-primary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at Postgraduate Degree level, Master Degree level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level, Bachelor Degree level, Advanced Diploma and Diploma level, and Certificates I, II, III and IV levels.

## **7111.0 Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary, 2007-08.** Released 14/11/2008

During 2007-08, 4.9 million hectares were sown to barley for grain in Australia, up 18% on 2006-07. The main growing states were Western Australia (1.4 million hectares), South Australia (1.2 million hectares) and Victoria (1.1 million hectares).

Some 1.0 million hectares were sown to sorghum for grain, up 68% on 2006-07. In Queensland, the main growing state, the area sown was 744,000 hectares, and in New South Wales it was 284,000 hectares. Victoria was not a significant producer of sorghum. Australian production of sorghum for grain in 2007-08 rose 213% to a record 4.0 million tonnes.

Some 1.3 million hectares were sown to oats for grain, up 25% on 2006-07. The three main growing states were New South Wales (475,000 hectares), Western Australia (398,000 hectares) and Victoria (210,000 hectares). Production of oats for grain in 2007-08 rose 107% to 1.5 million tonnes, with Victoria producing 343,000 tonnes.

During 2007-08, Victoria produced 1.8 million tonnes of barley for grain, 2.0 million tonnes of wheat for grain, and an estimated 230,000 tonnes of canola.

The area planted to cotton in Australia fell by 48% from the previous year to 85,000 hectares, the lowest since 1980-81. The production of cotton lint fell by 44% to 158,000 tonnes. The area sown to rice fell by 85% from the previous year to 3,000 hectares, a fall of 97% from the area sown in 2005-06, and the lowest area sown since 1927. Rice production nationally fell by 86% to 23,000 tonnes.

Preliminary estimates indicate Australia had 2.5 million head of milk cattle at 30 June 2008. Victoria continued to dominate the dairy industry with a herd of 1.6 million, or 60% of national herd. There were 79.2 million sheep and lambs in Australia, the lowest number since 1920, with 17.5 million in Victoria. In 2007-08, 84% of Australian agricultural businesses reported experiencing adverse seasonal conditions. Estimates ranged from almost 90% of agricultural

businesses in New South Wales and Victoria, to just over half in Western Australia.

#### **7124.0 Historical Selected Agriculture Commodities, by State (1861 to Present), 2007.**

Released 07/11/2008

Contains historical agricultural production details. Variables include the area and production of wheat, oats, barley, maize and potatoes, number of sheep, cattle, pigs, horses, and tonnes of wool produced. This time series information is available for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Australia.

#### **8104.0 Research and Experimental Development, Businesses, Australia, 2006-07.**

Released 14/10/2008

During 2006-07, business expenditure on research and development (BERD) in Australia was \$12.0 billion. BERD increased by 16% in current price terms and 11% in chain volume terms from 2005-06. BERD increased from 1.07% to 1.15% of GDP from 2005-06 to 2006-07, remaining below the OECD average of 1.56%. In 2006-07, the largest contributors to BERD were Manufacturing (\$3.8 billion or 31% of BERD), Mining (\$2.5 billion or 21%) and Professional, scientific and technical services (\$2.0 billion or 17%).

#### **8112.0 Research and Experimental Development, All Sector Summary, Australia, 2006-07.**

Released 21/10/2008

Summary statistics on research and experimental development (R&D) performed by organisations within the Business, Government, Higher education and Private non-profit sectors for 2006-07. In 2006-07, gross national expenditure on R&D (GERD) was \$21.0 billion, an increase of 32% (\$5.0 billion) over 2004-05. GERD represented 2.01% of GDP in 2006-07, up from 1.78% in 2004-05; the first time this ratio has exceeded 2%. Business sector expenditure accounted for the largest proportion of GERD in 2006-07 (57% or \$12.0 billion), followed by Higher education (26% or \$5.4 billion). At industry level, the largest values of GERD were reported for Education and training (over \$5 billion), Professional, scientific and technical services (\$4.0 billion) and Manufacturing (\$3.8 billion). Locations in New South Wales and Victoria accounted for over half (57%) of GERD in 2006-07, at \$6.2 billion and \$5.8 billion respectively.

#### **8126.0 Information and Communication Technology, Australia, 2006-07.** Released 07/10/2008

Data used in the compilation of these statistics were provided by Australian businesses considered to comprise the ICT industry (Australian interpretation of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ICT industry definition).

At 30 June 2007, there were approximately 300,000 persons employed in Australia's ICT industries. Total income for all ICT industries in 2006-07 was \$122.8 billion, of which almost three-quarters was attributable to the combined income of Wholesale trade (\$50.9 billion) and Information media and telecommunications (\$40.2 billion) industry groupings.

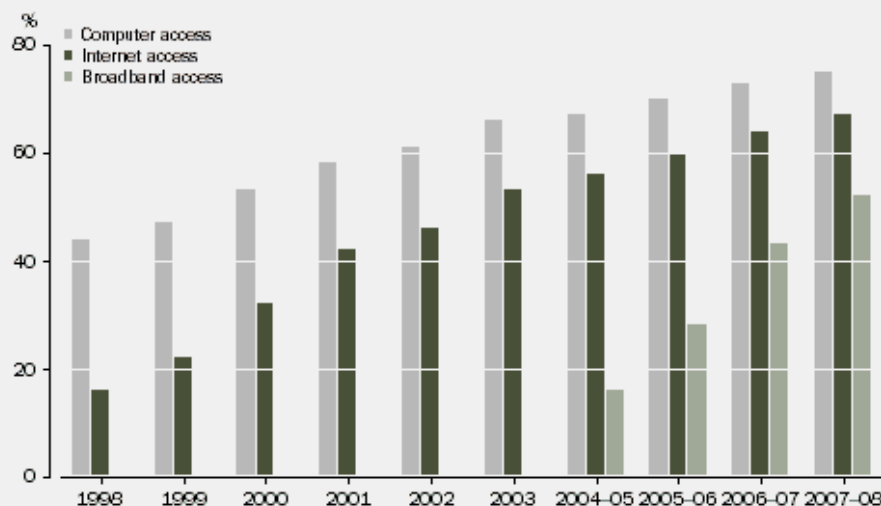
In 2006-07, ICT income (from the sale, distribution and provision of ICT products and services) totalled \$97.8 billion (80% of total income for ICT industries), with the remainder coming from non-ICT products and services (eg. leased property). Industry groupings with the highest proportion of total income being ICT income were Information media and telecommunications (97%) and Computer system design and related services (94%). For further information about ICT industry groupings refer to ABS cat. no. 8126.0.

#### **8146.0 Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 2007-08.** Released 18/12/2008

In 2007-08, 67% of Australian households had home Internet access and 75% had access to a computer. Between 1998 to 2007-08, household access to the Internet at home has more than quadrupled from 16% to 67%, while access to computers has increased by 31 percentage points to 75%.

In 2007-08, the number of households with a Broadband Internet connection increased 22% on 2006-07, to an estimated 4.3 million households. This represents over half (52%) of all households in Australia and 78% of households with Internet access. About 72% of people aged 15 years or over accessed the Internet (from any location) in the previous 12 months. Results from the 2006 Time Use Survey found that 6% of employed adults (15 years and over) had a teleworking agreement with their employer to access their computer via a modem so they could work from home.

**Figure 1: Household Computer or Internet Access, Proportion of all households - 1998 to 2007-08**



#### **8155.0 Australian Industry, 2006-07.** Released 08/10/2008

The key aggregates of income, expenses and industry value added increased by 12%, 9% and 13% respectively for Total selected industries between 2005-06 and 2006-07. Operating profit before tax (OPBT) increased by 32%; and earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) increased by 14%.

All industry divisions other than Agriculture, forestry and fishing (declined 2%) recorded increases in total income. The largest percentage increase was recorded by the Rental, hiring and real estate services industry (28%), while Manufacturing (\$41.0b) had the largest absolute increase.

All industries recorded increases in total expenses: the largest percentage increase occurred in the Professional, scientific and technical services industry (16%) and largest absolute increase in Manufacturing (\$35.4b).

In 2006-07, Manufacturing was the largest of the selected industries in four states (Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania). In New South Wales, Wholesale trade was the largest industry followed by Manufacturing.

#### **8175.0 Counts of Australian Business Operators, 2006 to 2007.** Released 01/10/2008. First Issue

Presents selected counts of Australian business operators as sourced from the 2007 Forms of Employment Survey (FOE) and 2006 Census of Population and Housing. Some 1.9 million owned and operated one or more businesses in Australia. The FOE survey found that the

average business owner/operator was male (68%), aged of 25-54 (69%) and worked full time in their business (72%). Industries with the highest proportions of business operators were construction (20%); agriculture, forestry and fishing (11%); and professional, scientific and technical services (11%); with business owners working as managers and administrators (20%) or as tradepersons (19%).

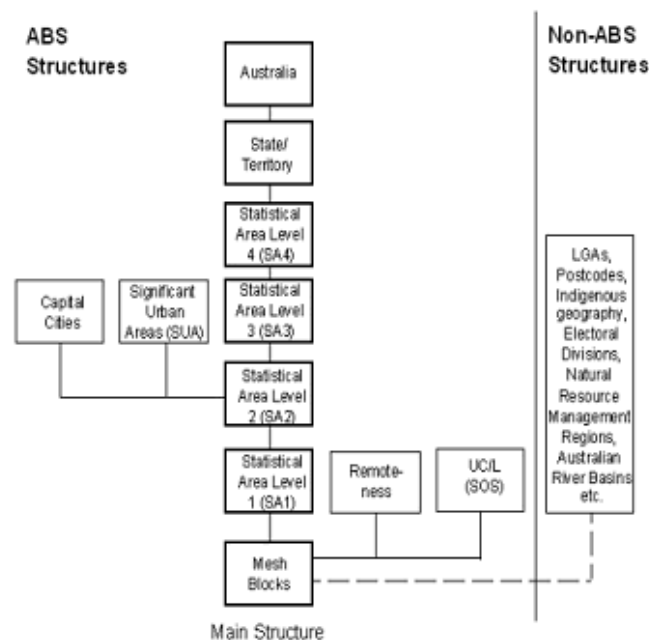
[Back to top](#)

## Information papers, research papers and classifications

### Australian Standard Geographical Classification Review Outcomes

ABS released 'Information Paper, Outcomes from the Review of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification' (cat no 1216.0.55.002) in July 2008. This paper announced that the current ASGC will be replaced with the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) in July 2011.

The diagram below summarises the new ASGS's structure.



The ASGS brings all spatial regions used by ABS (to output data) under the one umbrella. They are separated into two broad categories:

- ABS structures, those which are defined and maintained by ABS
- non-ABS structures, those defined and maintained by other organisations, but for which ABS supplies various data.

The ASGS statistical area (SA) levels are being designed over the next two years. SA2 boundaries for each state are the first level being designed. They have emerged as the key level in ABS Structures, as they are the level for which Estimated Residential Population (ERP) data will be modelled and released, along with the majority of other ABS sub-state intercensal data. SA2s will have a minimum population of 3,000 and a maximum of 25,000. They are conceptually different from the current Statistical Local Areas and will therefore have different boundaries.



The draft Victorian SA2 boundaries are under development during January 2009 in consultation with the Department of Planning and Community Development. They will then be released for 3 months of wider consultation. ABS Geography staff intend to hold a seminar and meetings with interested stakeholders in February 2009. If you are interested in being involved please contact Mizan Laskar (email: <[victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au](mailto:victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au)>).

SA1s are the smallest areas for which a wide range of Population Census data will be released. They will have a population of about 400 people, comparable in size to the Census Collection District.

SA3s and SA4s will be the last ABS statistical area levels developed. SA4s will be used for the release of Labour Force Statistics and have a population in the region of 200,000. SA3s are a medium sized unit with a more variable population from 30,000 to 130,000. Urban Centres and Localities (UCL)(Section of State) and Remoteness structures require data from the 2011 Census to enable design. ABS intends to generate UCL boundaries on a similar basis to past.

The non-ABS structures will be developed up to and beyond the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. Apart from Indigenous geography, which will be more integrated into ABS structures, other non-ABS geographies will be approximated using mesh blocks close to the date of Census. The ABS will continue to support Local Government Areas with the same data currently available at this geographical level.

If you have any questions about the new Geography please email <[geography@abs.gov.au](mailto:geography@abs.gov.au)>.

**1205.0.55.001 Information Paper: Cause of Death Certification Australia, 2008.** Released 25/11/2008

A guide for Medical Practitioners in accurately completing Medical Certificates of Cause of Death. Sufficiently detailed cause of death information ensures accurate and timely cause of death statistics are available to data users, and frees medical practitioners from the extra burden of answering queries relating to incomplete or inadequate documentation on the certificate. Included in the information paper is a death certification quick reference guide.

**1292.0.55.005 Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 - Correspondence Tables, 2008.** Released 03/12/2008

There are a number of correspondence tables which will assist users in identifying the relevant corresponding industry class in another classification. The available correspondence tables for ANZSIC 2006 are: ANZSIC 1993 - ANZSIC 2006; ANZSIC 2006 - ANZSIC 1993; ISIC Rev.3.1 - ANZSIC 2006; ANZSIC 2006 - ISIC Rev.3.1; ISIC Rev.4 - ANZSIC 2006; ANZSIC 2006 - ISIC Rev.4.

**3302.0.55.002 Discussion Paper: Assessment of Methods for Developing Life Tables for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006.** Released 17 November, 2008

This paper presents an assessment of various methods for adjusting incomplete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) death registration data for use with the latest available estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, so as to compile Indigenous life tables and life expectancy estimates. It describes the methods considered and results of analysis (including resulting life expectancy estimates). It also describes the limitations, including sensitivity analysis of various methods. An ABS preferred approach is presented, although given the limitations of available data, estimates will continue to be considered experimental. The paper's purpose is to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide ABS with feedback on the topic to ensure all issues are adequately considered before finalising experimental Indigenous life tables and life expectancy estimates in early-2009. The discussion paper was released in conjunction with Information Paper: Census Data Enhancement - Indigenous Mortality Quality Study, 2006-07 (cat. no. 4723.0).

**4105.0.55.001 Information Paper: Data Gaps in Early Childhood: Identifying and bringing together available information.** Released 30/01/2009

This information paper reports on a data mapping pilot project undertaken by ABS, in collaboration with several other agencies. The project's aim is to consider ways of improving the evidence base on early childhood, through better use of existing data held by government agencies. This project will investigate the existing range of data sources relevant to identified high priority policy questions in early childhood learning and care. This will include ascertaining how existing data sources relate to key information requirements, where gaps exist and what access arrangements are in place.

**4610.0.55.006 Information Paper: Methods of estimating the Gross Value of Irrigated Agricultural Production, 2008.** Released 31/10/2008. First Issue

Gross Value of Irrigated Agricultural Production (GVIAP) refers to the gross value of agricultural commodities produced with the assistance of irrigation. Over the past 18 months, ABS has been developing an improved methodology for calculating GVIAP. It is proposed that experimental estimates based on the improved methodology will be published in Experimental Estimates of the Gross Value of Irrigated Agricultural Production 2000–01 to 2006–07 (cat. no. 4610.0.55.008) in early-2009 and also the next edition of the ABS Water Account, Australia (cat. no. 4610.0) (for reference period 2008–09).

**4916.0 Towards Comparable Statistics for Cultural Heritage Organisations, 2008.** Released 17/11/2008. First Issue

Identifies a set of key measures and standard methodologies to facilitate information sharing, benchmarking and time series comparisons among cultural heritage organisations. This is a first step towards an improvement in the overall quality and comparability of key data collected by Australia's cultural heritage sector, which encompasses museums, libraries, art museums and archives. Key measures covered include number of visits to the organisation, visitor satisfaction, age and sex distribution of visitors, size of collection, number of employees/volunteers and financial information.

**5368.0.55.011 Information paper: Changes to International Trade in Goods Industry Statistics, July 2009.** Released 18/12/2008

Describes changes that will be made to Australian export and import goods statistics classified by industry. These changes will result from implementation of the 2006 update to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC). This paper also advises on timing of the introduction of ANZSIC 2006 in export and import statistics.

[Back to top](#)

**Other releases**

**1001.0 Australian Bureau of Statistics - Annual Report, 2007-08.** Released 17/10/2008

**1002.0 Australian Statistics Advisory Council - Annual Report, 2007-08.** Released 17/10/2008

**1330.0 Education News, Nov 2008.** Released 03/11/2008

**1386.0 What's New in Regional Statistics, Dec 2008.** Released 03/12/2008

**3201.0 Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, Jun 2008.** Released 15/12/2008

**3302.2.55.001 Life Tables, Victoria, 2005 to 2007.** Released 25/11/2008

**3303.0.55.001 Causes of Death, Australia: Doctor Certified Deaths, Summary Tables, 2007.** Released 25/11/2008

**4517.0 Prisoners in Australia, 2008.** Released 11/12/2008

**4722.0.55.006 Overweight and Obesity - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: A snapshot, 2004-05.** Released 29/10/2008. First Issue

**5260.0.55.002 Experimental Estimates of Industry Multifactor Productivity, 2007-08.** Released 19/11/2008

**5368.0.55.003 International Trade in Services by Country, by State and by Detailed Services Category, Financial Year, 2007-08.** Released 05/11/2008

**6209.0 Labour Mobility, Australia, Feb 2008.** Released 28/10/2008

**6361.0.55.003 Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation; State Tables, April to July 2007.** Released 15/12/2008. First Issue

**6524.0.55.002 Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2001-02 to 2005-06.** Released 17/12/2008

**7105.0 ABS Agriculture Statistics Collection Strategy - 2008-09 and beyond, 2008-09.** Released 17/12/2008

**7121.0.55.002 Agricultural Survey, Apples and Pears, Australia, 2007-08.** Released 17/12/2008

**Main Economic Indicators (MEIs).** Also released during the past quarter were a number of monthly and quarterly MEIs which can be accessed from the ABS website home page <[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)>. Examples of MEIs include: housing finance, building approvals, labour force, consumer price index, sales of new motor vehicles, and retail trade.

[Back to top](#)

## **ABS Statistical training and information seminars**



### **ABS Statistical training and information seminars**

**Venue:** ABS Victorian Office, Level 5 south tower, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

**What Statistical training courses are available at ABS Victoria?**

- Turning Data Into Information (TDII)
- Basic Survey Design (BSD)
- Understanding Demographic Data (UDD)
- Making Quality Informed Decisions (MQID)
- Analysing Survey Data Made Simple (ASDMS)
- Introduction to Labour Statistics (ILS)
- Valuing Australia's Environment
- ABS Datacubes in SuperTABLE (DiST)

**We also offer free seminars such as:**

- CDATA Online (repeating)
- Revised standards in ABS economic statistics 2009 (one-off)

**Turning Data Into Information (TDII)**

This course develops skills in interpreting, displaying and communicating data clearly and effectively. Analytical thinking skills are developed to enable the transformation of data into meaningful written information.

**Length:** 2 days

**Fee:** \$750.00

**2009 dates:** 13-14 May, 7-8 October

**Basic Survey Design (BSD)**

This course aims to provide a broad overview of all facets of survey development. Topics include developing survey objectives, advantages and disadvantages of various collection methodologies, questionnaire design, data processing, reporting of results and management of the design process.

**Length:** 2 days

**Fee:** \$750.00

**2009 dates:** 24-25 March, 8-9 July, 24-25 November

**Understanding Demographic Data (UDD)**

This one-day course introduces participants to demographic data in an international and Australian context. Participants will explore the components of population change (births, deaths, migration) and understand population estimates at the national, state and small area level. At the completion of this course participants will:

- have an understanding of demographic concepts and current issues,
- understand the basic methods of analysing demographic data; and
- be able to access appropriate demographic data on the ABS website.

This course is designed for people who use and/or need to understand demographic data to formulate policies and programs.

**Length:** 1 day

**Fee:** \$450.00

**2009 dates:** 18 March, 26 May, 9 September

**Making Quality Informed Decisions (MQID)**

This course introduces the concept of 'holistic quality' through the use of a data quality framework for a statistical collection. The framework ensures that users of statistics are able to assess whether the statistics are fit for their intended use. This course aims to provide a framework to evaluate the quality of available data sources and use this knowledge in the decision-making process.

**Length:** 1 day

**Fee:** \$450.00

**2009 dates:** 3 March, 13 August

### **Analysing Survey Data Made Simple (ASDMS)**

This computer based course develops practical skills in summarising and displaying survey data in graphical and tabular form. It provides the tools for finding simple relationships in survey data and testing for statistically significant differences in past and current survey results.

**Length:** 2 days

**Fee:** \$750.00

**2009 dates:** 1-2 April, 2-3 September

### **Introduction to Labour Statistics (ILS)**

This course provides an overview of the range of concepts and issues associated with ABS labour statistics. It explores the data produced by both household and employer based collections, and highlights the range of products available to access labour-related data.

**Length:** 1 day

**Fee:** \$450.00

**2009 date:** 7 May

### **Valuing Australia's Environment**

A course focusing on the emerging discipline of environmental accounting. The course covers reasons for, and conceptual underpinnings of, environmental accounting as framed by the United Nations' "System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting" (SEEA). It also covers practical issues associated with producing these accounts and presents some case studies, both within Australia and internationally. The course would be of interest to people requiring an overview of environmental statistics and their use and/or working in the field of environmental accounting or national accounts.

**Length:** 1 day

**Fee:** \$450.00

**2009 date:** 10 June

### **ABS Databuses in SuperTABLE (DiST)**

The ABS web site has large datasets that can be downloaded for free. This course will teach participants how to access these datasets in SuperTABLE format to create tables that meet their organisation's information needs. Through a combination of theoretical instruction and computer-based exercises, participants will learn how to use the free SuperTABLE software.

**Length:** Half day, 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

**Fee:** \$300

**2009 dates :** 27 March, 29 April, 12 May, 22 May, 3 June, 17 June

**For further information** on ABS statistical training go to the ABS website <[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)>. Select 'Services' then ABS Training. For courses listed above, Alan Page (03 9615 7899) is ABS's training contact in Victoria, or email queries/registrations to <[victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au](mailto:victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au)>.

### **Information Seminars (free):**

#### **CData Online seminars (CData)**

Information sessions run for State and Local Government, will showcase 2006 Census products available free of charge on the ABS Website and present a case study using free Census data.

An introduction to C-Data Online is covered in these sessions.

**Length:** 1.5 hours (2:00 pm start)

**Fee:** no charge

**2009 dates:** 20 January, 21 April, 21 May, 23 June, 23 July

To reserve a place on a C-Data Online seminar, please email <vic.client.services@abs.gov.au>, nominating which session you would like to attend, your name, organisation, contact phone number and email address. Please ring Heather Burns on 9615 7535 if you have any queries about the C-Data 2006 Information Sessions, or would like to arrange a session in your own government agency.

### **Revised standards in ABS economic statistics 2009 seminar**

In September quarter 2009, ABS economic statistics will undergo the largest single change in over a decade. ABS will be aligning all of our subannual collections and National Accounts with recently updated international standards. There will be changes to many of the concepts used in ABS publications, structure of industry, and coverage of our collections.

This seminar will cover:

- Why the ABS is adopting these new standards.
- Reviewing new ANZSIC classification changes and overview of impact; impacts caused by implementing the international System of National Accounts, 2008; and changes caused by our new Institutional Sector Classification.
- Indications of the likely impact of these.
- Release schedule for publications on the new basis.

ABS presenters will be: Michael Meagher (Director, Economic Standards and Classifications Section), Derick Cullen (Director, National Accounts Research Section), Celia Quiatchon (Assistant Director, Economic Standards and Classifications Section), and Jenny Foster (Assistant Director, Economic Standards and Classifications Section).

**Length:** 1 hour

**Fee:** no charge

**2009 date:** March 24, 9:30-10:30am

The target audience for this seminar is any user of ABS statistics, particularly those who regularly access our publications. Contact Aidan Kent on (03) 9615 7607 or email <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>. to register your interest. RSVP by March 16, 2009.

[Back to top](#)

## **Points of contact**



### **POINTS OF CONTACT**

#### **ABS VICTORIAN OFFICE**

There is an ABS office in every capital city. The ABS Office in Victoria is located on Level 5, South Tower, 485 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne. To email the Regional Director or Statistical Coordination contacts listed below use <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

**Postal address**

GPO Box 2796Y  
Melbourne Vic 3001

**Regional Director**

ABS Victoria  
Carl Obst  
(03) 9615 7330

**STATISTICAL COORDINATION CONTACTS**

Director (Acting)  
James Darragh  
(03) 9615 7049

Assistant Director - Victorian Government Servicing  
Pam Boulton  
(03) 9615-7880

Assistant Director - Economic & Regional Statistics  
Sophie Vasiliou  
(03) 9615 7442

Assistant Director - Social Statistics  
Fiona Shalley  
(03) 9615 7510

**NATIONAL INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE**

The National Information and Referral Service (NIRS) is the first point of contact for all your statistical and publication enquiries.

Phone: 1300 135 070  
Fax: 1300 135 211  
Email: <client.services@abs.gov.au>

**LIBRARY EXTENSION PROGRAM**

Libraries play a unique role in providing information to their communities and are a valuable source of ABS statistics. The Library Extension Program is a partnership between ABS and a nation-wide network of over 500 participating libraries.

**EDITOR, STATISTICS VICTORIA (Cat no 1100.2)**

Alan Page  
(03) 9615 7899  
<victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>

**VICTORIAN STATISTICS ADVISORY FORUM (VSAF)**

VSAF is a major forum for statistical liaison between Victorian government agencies and ABS. The following group of departmental representatives meet 3 times or more each year.

**VSAF Chair**



**Department of Treasury and Finance**

Appointment pending

**Department of Treasury and Finance**

Peter Fuhrmann

**Department of Premier and Cabinet**

Frank Maas

**Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development**

Chris West

**Department of Education and Early Childhood Development**

Dr Sara Glover

**Department of Human Services**

Dr Connie Spinoso

**Department of Justice**

Dr Johnathon Spear

**Department of Transport**

Philip Norman

**Department of Planning and Community Development**

Tim Patton

**Department of Sustainability and Environment**

Elizabeth Thomas

**Department of Primary Industries**

Bill Fisher

**Australian Bureau of Statistics, Victoria**

Carl Obst

[Back to top](#)

## About this Release

Statistics Victoria is a quarterly newsletter primarily targetted to Victorian state and local government users providing information about new developments, recent statistical releases, seminars, training and reviews.